

71
66

THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

FORMERLY "THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT"
OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE A.A.L.

Challenging Mrs. Grundy

Living in Sin	185
Mrs. Grundy Speaks	187
The Sins of Puritans	189
What is Censorship?	191
The Dam Busters	194
Who Killed Cock Robin?	196
The Catholic Point of View	198
Censorship in Ireland	200
Danger to Libraries	202
New Light on Lear	204
Council Notes	206

SPECIAL CENSORSHIP NUMBER

VOLUME 49 • • **1956** • • NUMBER 12
DECEMBER

CEDRIC CHIVERS LTD.

PORTWAY, BATH

BOOKBINDERS
—AND—
BOOKSELLERS

TELEGRAMS
"DUROFLEX," BATH

TELEPHONE
7355, BATH





THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Official Journal of the Association of Assistant Librarians

(Section of the Library Association)

Edited by W. G. SMITH, Westminster Public Libraries

VOL. 49 NO. 12

DECEMBER, 1956

Editorial

Living In Sin

Our October issue contained the following letter from Mr. Alan Thomas, of Lewisham Libraries:—

At a recent trial in France a lawyer put the responsibility for the crime on the reading of certain modern authors (notably Gide and Sartre).

The library profession has concerned itself with the physical and bibliographical aspects of book selection. Lately, it has ventilated the question of sub-literature. But it has signally failed to explore the moral aspects of book selection.

This results in the display on open shelves of works of all moral levels, thus exposing the simple-minded unwary reader to the continuous danger of moral infection. The purposive student of literature is, of course, able to discriminate in his choice of reading, and any material that he might require should be available on special application.

Librarians must consider the moral effects of reading and evolve some clear working principles to apply both in book selection and in assistance to readers. Then libraries will take an active and constructive role in relation to the individual and society. As a beginning to this work, we could examine the practice obtaining in Ireland, where there is stricter selection and a marked absence of crime.

We should do well to heed the warning given to Freemen of the City of London: "But beware of all such books as are licentious or profane: these may well be compared to palatable poison; there may be wit in them, but if you read them they will insensibly corrupt both your morals and principles."

The resulting howl of protest has been so great that most of this issue has been given over to the question of censorship. It has, indeed, given us pause to consider our own sins. Only recently we saw Arthur Miller's banned play *View from the Bridge*, defeating the Lord Chamberlain's valiant attempt to defend our innocence by paying a five shilling subscription to a theatre club. So deep is our depravity that we thought it one of the best modern plays ever seen.

Sinking further into the mire, we read Monsarrat's *The Tribe That Lost its Head*, a novel banned in Ireland, and have recently enjoyed the Folio edition of the *Decameron* with its wicked illustrations. Guiltily eavesdropping on to that feast of iniquity, the B.B.C.'s Third Programme, we have heard lewd poetry and plays and, worst of all, once told a naughty story at an A.A.L. Conference.

What a load of nonsense—and how heartening it is that so many assistants should rush in to fight the censors. But, as Mr.

Collison points out in this issue, censorship takes many forms, and it is unfortunately true that many libraries practice it in some form. In a Branch Librarian's office we saw recently *Forever Amber* sedately partnering *The Woman of Rome* and, knowing the librarian concerned, hardly think they were there for her delight. Some libraries have an "X" stamped on the back of books kept in the staff enclosure where O'Hara's *Rage to Live* has recently been joined by *The House of Dolls* while Havelock Ellis sits in promiscuous intimacy with Marie Stopes. Artistic studies of the nude, and even *Ulysses*, are relegated to the reference library while *Darkness Visible* is available only on request.

"Assassination is the extreme form of censorship," said Shaw. The threat of less extreme forms should never be underrated by librarians.

W.G.S.

Hon. Editor's New Address

The Editor is now at WESTMINSTER PUBLIC LIBRARIES, BUCKINGHAM PALACE ROAD BRANCH, LONDON, S.W.1, and will be grateful if copies of library publications are sent to this address. Articles and correspondence are welcomed. Opinions expressed in the *Assistant Librarian* are personal views and do not necessarily represent the policies of the A.A.L. Council.

ESTABLISHED 1868

J. STARR & SONS, LTD.

Specialist Library Bookbinders

**Dawber Street Works
Wigan, Lancs.**

'Phone : 2 Lines
3484-5

'Grams : Starrs 3484
Wigan

One Quality only—The Best

Mrs. Grundy Speaks

One would, of course, like to deny the very existence of such vices as Communism and homosexuality: the next best thing, as your correspondent says, is to burn those disgusting books devoted to such subjects, and so *obviously* designed to lead our teen-age daughters (and let us not forget our teen-age sons) from the straight and narrow path. Then we can all *pretend* that such things do not exist at all. If I had a teen-age daughter, I should be terribly shocked to find her reading anything more seductive than *Little Women* or Enid Blyton's wonderful books—books which allow us to escape for a few hours from sordid reality into a much nicer world.

I have long felt that we librarians have interpreted our tasks too widely, and have taken our responsibilities too lightly. It is, of course, our bounden duty to provide the public with the *best* literature of our day (as represented by Mr. Charteris, Mr. Zane Grey, and Miss Annie Swan), but surely we are morally obliged to hide from them the uglier facts, and the more serious problems of life.

The public, needless to say, is quite incapable of distinguishing the good from the bad: we with our unexceptionable moral standards and our highly developed critical faculties, must do our best to protect them. If we *must* have books on our shelves which deal with controversial topics, we should take care to exclude the minority view-point. I have found from experience that it makes life so much easier, both for us and for our readers, if we only see one side of an argument.

I am,

Yours, etc.,

FELICIA GRUNDY (Mrs.).

(This letter is reproduced from the May, 1956, issue of *S.L.A. News*, by kind permission of the Editor).

"There is no such thing as a moral or immoral book. Books are either well written or badly written, that is all." So wrote Oscar Wilde in 1891, and yet it is obvious that Mr. Thomas has not yet read it, otherwise we are sure he would not be wanting to ban some peculiar objects (called "works") which have "moral levels." In any case, surely the readers of Gide and Sartre have the common sense not to be corrupted by the ideas presented by those authors.

Mr. Thomas's choice of Ireland to bear out his argument is a peculiarly unfortunate one, apart from the obvious fact that there is not a "marked absence of crime" there, surely any difference in criminal statistics is the result of totally different social and economic conditions existing in Ireland rather than the availability of "licentious or profane" books.

We also advise him to read two books. The first is a list of *Books Prohibited in the Irish Free State under the Censorship of Publications Act, 1929*. If he does it is most likely that even he will shudder at the thought of banning books by such authors as Aldous Huxley, Louis Bromfield, William Faulkner, Theodore and John Cowper Powys (who, by the way, are two of the best but least read English writers) and, of all people, Theodore Besterman. The second book is *The Right to Read* by Paul Blanshard. If he reads this book he will probably join those who, in company with Bertrand Russell, believe that there should be no censorship whatsoever.

T. D. WILSON, EDWARD MAY, JAMES F. HADLOW, C. FERGUSEN,
Students, Newcastle School of Librarianship.

Censor's Cant

I should like to think that Mr. Thomas is not serious in his plea for censorship by librarians because there are already too many proclaiming the dangerous and untrue cant that the letters A.L.A. miraculously transport a librarian on to some Olympic pinnacle from which he can decree the reading habits of his fellow human beings.

If a librarian is to take the duties of censor, then it would perhaps be wise if our library schools could be persuaded to teach the art of tactfully informing a reader that in the librarian's opinion he is "simple minded" and therefore cannot be allowed to read a book recommended by a friend judged to be "a purposive student" and "discriminating."

MISS N. M. TULLY, *Durham County Library.*

Once again a self-appointed guardian of the public morals takes it upon himself to restrict us as to what we should read.

It will be a sad day for British librarianship if it is ever run on the lines advocated by Mr. Thomas; that a librarian is actually in favour of book banning, will I hope, produce a storm of protest to this periodical. I suggest to this gentleman that he is in the wrong profession; any librarian who calls his readers "simple minded" has an exaggerated opinion of his own.

I would recommend to Mr. Thomas the summing up of Mr. Justice Stable concerning the jury trial of *The Philanderer*, by Stanley Kaufman, known as the Secker Case. A careful reading of Anne Lyon Haight's *Banned Books* might help to clear away the "Licentious and profane" prejudices acquired by Mr. Thomas. (One suspects from what source they emanate!).

LESLIE E. S. DARBY, *Ealing Libraries.*

American Practice

Are librarians responsible for the moral influence of books? And are librarians to say precisely what the moral influence of one book will have on one reader? Or ten books on ten readers? Or one book on ten readers? Can Mr. Thomas do this? I cannot and make no attempt to do so. Certainly obscene or pornographic works are not considered for purchase, beyond this we should not go, or is each librarian to become a minor Lord Chamberlain? (I am concerned with Adult readers only, here).

While I was working in Brooklyn Public Library, U.S.A., books on locksmithing and guns were withdrawn from circulation. In due course in view of the success of *The Search for Bridey Murphy* and the "do it yourself" craze, it was suggested that books on hypnotism be withdrawn, too, because of the moral influence of these books on the reader. If we are to follow this practice to its conclusion, medical treatises will be withdrawn because sailors from Brooklyn Navy Yard may conduct themselves in an unseemly fashion when learning that certain diseases are easily curable, and New York Police may request withdrawal of books on Judo, criminal trials, and the *Pharmaceutical Index*. And presumably in this country, Labour (or Tory) dominated councils may request the withdrawal of books stating the case for the opposite party. The moral influence of these books may influence the results of the next election!

I am not sure of his meaning when he refers to Ireland. Does Mr. Thomas refer to the *Index Librorum Prohibitorum*? This is maintained by the Catholic Church, not by Public Librarians, but does he recommend its adoption by Public Librarians in this country? If so, away with *The Tribe that Lost its Head*. As for book selection reducing crime in Ireland, maybe Mr. Thomas should become librarian to the I.R.A.

COLIN W. CLARKE, *Brierley Hill Public Library.*

The Sins of Puritans

By John L. Broom, Lanarkshire County Libraries

The present laws against allegedly indecent literature date from the mid-nineteenth century, and decree that a publication is obscene if it may tend to deprave or corrupt those "into whose hands" it may chance to fall. These ill-chosen words give "carte blanche" to any narrow-minded prude to cause a prosecution to be brought against one unfortunate author, for there are few important books which might not plausibly be alleged to have such an effect on some feeble-minded person. The number of actions increased alarmingly in 1954, culminating in the ludicrous decision against *The Decameron*. Fortunately the enlightened summing-up of Mr. Justice Stable in the *Philanderer* case resulted in a sharp diminution of the number of prosecutions. Nevertheless the law remains unaltered in spite of the heroic efforts of Sir Alan Herbert and his supporters, and the objections to censorship of every description need continual restatement.

Firstly, there is the general and simple argument that every person should be allowed to read whatever he or she pleases without dictation from anyone else. If a man is addicted to the novels of James Hadley Chase or George Viereck, why should he not have his fill of them? He is as honest a citizen as the earnest student of Kant's *Metaphysic of Ethics*, and is surely entitled to indulge his literary appetites to the same extent however depraved we may consider them to be.

Secondly, there is the very important point that none of our moral pundits agree regarding which books are obscene and which are harmless. The definition of obscenity changes from century to century and from country to country. In the case of *The Image and the Search* three juries failed to agree and the defendants were eventually acquitted, in itself a smashing indictment of censorship. Many books, moreover, which were banned during the present century, have since been "reprieved" and are now universally available—e.g. Radclyffe Hall's *Well of Loneliness* and Joyce's *Ulysses*. But if they were unfit to read when first published, they are surely still unfit to read to-day. Parts of the Holy Bible are of course very strong meat indeed, and if they were published separately would undoubtedly be condemned by our self-righteous puritans. The *Satyria* of Petronius, the work of Rabelais and the *Droll Stories* of Balzac make *No Orchids for Miss Blandish* seem like a Sunday School textbook. Yet the colossal inconsistency which censorship always involves means that the latter are condemned, while the former are excused on the grounds of being classics, the argument apparently being that if a sin was committed long enough ago, it is pardonable. As Voltaire pointed out, if there had been censorship in Ancient Rome, we should have had to-day neither Horace nor Juvenal.

Are we all Idiots?

Thirdly, censorship is wrong because it brings all people down to the lowest common denominator. Children and idiots must be protected, so we must all be treated as though we are children or idiots. This argument is as sensible as prohibiting the manufacture of razors because young people or fools might cut themselves with them. In fact it would be very difficult to prove that any single person, child or adult, has been injured by reading a book dealing with sex, whether in the form of a novel, or a psychological or medical treatise. It is a very naive person who imagines that by preventing a child from gaining access to a book of questionable morality, he or she is protecting the young from acquir-

ing sexual knowledge. A boy or girl need only enter the nearest public lavatory to see sentiments and drawings which would land an author in jail for life if they appeared in published form. A child who receives a thorough grounding in sex from an early age will find the obscenity pervading at every school merely boring, in contrast to his friend, shielded by misguided parents, teachers, and librarians, to whom it will be only too attractive. Moreover, below a certain age the reading of so called pornography has no effect whatever. I devoured a copy of Balzac's *Droll Stories* at the age of eight and remained quite unaware that they contained anything not mentioned in polite society.

The great majority of those charged with sexual offences have probably never read a sex book in their lives. In most cases their distorted outlook is due to unbalanced glandular secretions and ignorance of the true function of sex brought about by the very attitude of the prohibition I am attacking. It is a very curious and significant fact that the most fanatical censor would never dream of banning ordinary crime stories, yet if a person may seduce an innocent maiden after reading an Alberto Moravia novel, another may equally, by the same argument, commit a murder after reading a Raymond Chandler.

Far from leading people to commit sex crimes, I believe that pornographic literature serves a valuable service in acting as a kind of prophylactic against promiscuity. Those who read it require the relief thereby afforded from the oppressions of convention as children require fairy tales to escape from the often prosaic realities of their daily life. Our pornographic literature addict is normally an inoffensive insignificant fellow who is scared of sex in real life and so finds a substitute by wallowing imaginatively in highly coloured descriptions of seduction and lechery within the covers of a book. He is the last person on earth to follow the example of the undesirable characters in the story; he lacks the courage. Yet if the outlet of enjoying pornography is denied him through the action of the censor, he may conceivably be driven to less harmless means for the satisfaction of his frustrated instincts.

Forbidden Fruit

Fourthly the total illogicality of censorship is shown by the fact that it is always the other person who is said to be in danger from the offending publication. The would-be censor is always himself immune and it is sheer self-righteousness for him to claim that other members of the public are less able than himself to resist temptation.

The strongest argument against all forms of censorship is that prohibition automatically makes the thing prohibited one hundred times more attractive. Because of interference by well meaning but stupid puritans many worthless publications gain an entirely undeserved notoriety. The demand for pornography is largely due to censorship. As George Ryley Scott put it, "the best advertisement is the hanging of the word *verboden* in front of an exhibit." Havelock Ellis said "No one would read a book because the Home Secretary recommends it, but there is a vast public for it because he condemns it."

To sum up: Almost any book may be dangerous and different books are dangerous to different people at different times. But to make this an excuse for censorship would mean that there would be precious few books left in our libraries. "Every burned book enlightened the world," said Emerson, and I suggest that the only phenomenon that we should suppress is the censor of every variety, an evil and pernicious figure who by his loathsome actions is attempting to stifle that hard-won liberty to read whatever we desire which we must ever strive to defend.

WHAT IS CENSORSHIP ?

By R. L. Collison, Westminster Public Libraries

The publication of a short review-article of mine in the spring has had some unexpected consequences. The first development was a letter to the Hon. Editor from Mrs. M. Jones, of West Ham Public Libraries, and Mr. K. H. Jones, of Walthamstow, dated 19th April:—

"It is unfortunate that Mr. R. L. Collison in his article 'Books are not for Burning,' in the March number of the *Assistant Librarian*, did not make a more critical use of Anne Lyon Haight's *Banned Books*. Mr. John Peet, former Reuter's correspondent in Germany, who is now living in East Berlin, has drawn our attention to several fabrications in this book. For example, Mr. Collison quotes Mrs. Haight's statement that Heine's works are banned in East Berlin (p.84, English edition). This is nonsense. Heine's works have appeared in editions of hundreds of thousands of copies: selections of his poems and prose works are available in every bookshop in East Berlin and the German Democratic Republic. Similarly, Mr. Collison echoes Mrs. Haight's statement that the works of Upton Sinclair have been banned in East Berlin (p. 92). This, again, is sheer invention. Upton Sinclair is among the most popular American writers in Eastern Germany where several of his books have appeared in large editions. Finally, we are owlishly informed that 'Micky Mouse has been classed as an anti-Red rebel by the Communists of East Berlin.' What have in fact been banned are the sexy, sadistic and racist type of American comic smuggled in from West Berlin. This doesn't include the allegedly counter-revolutionary Mickey Mouse! The only books banned in East Germany—in the spirit of the Potsdam Agreement—are books like Hitler's *Mein Kampf* and other fascist and militarist works and works calculated to fan racial hatred."

The information in this letter was presumably based on an article by John Peet (*Democratic German Report*, 9th December, 1955), which reviews Mrs. Haight's book in unfavourable terms. *Democratic German Report*, which is probably unfamiliar to most British librarians, is a small English-language fortnightly, edited and published by John Peet, and issued under licence no. 694 of the "Ministerpräsidenten der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik." On May 11th, John Peet turned his attention to me in the *Democratic German Report*, saying that Mrs. Haight's "allegations have been picked up and repeated by serious people who ought to know better," and emphasising that Heine's and Sinclair Lewis's works are widely circulated in East Germany. In the issue of July 6th, John Peet points out that Sinclair Lewis, Dreiser, Jack Lindsay, Thomas Wolfe, Grahame Greene, Ernest Hemingway, John Steinbeck, etc., are among the writers whose works are easily available in the Democratic Republic. He also suggests that more would be so, were it not for the fact that "the authors, particularly American authors, have been unwilling to allow their books to appear 'behind the iron curtain,'" and asks how many books by East German authors—such as Arnold Zweig, Ludwig Renn, Anna Seghers, etc.—have been translated and published in English-speaking countries. "Plenty of British and American authors are getting into print here: what about a bit of reciprocity?" he asks.

In the meantime I had been trying to get in touch with Mrs. Haight: I missed her during her brief visit to England in the summer, and it was not till July 22nd that my letters eventually caught up with her in New York, when she wrote me the following reply:—

"I have searched far and wide among my papers for the authority from which I quoted that the works of Heine and Upton

Sinclair were banned in East Berlin and I cannot find it. It was boxed in a trade magazine and at the time the publisher and I discussed the reliability of the statement and decided that it was alright. It seemed plausible considering their past histories. However, that was in 1954, and I am wondering if they were banned then, but not in 1955 and '56. It could well be. As for Mickey Mouse being classed as an anti-red rebel: that was published in all the newspapers in an Associated Press release. I am still hoping to find the reference and when I go to New York will look through the *Publishers' Weekly* file, for I am most anxious to prove that the books were banned in 1954."

Since then I have had no further word from Mrs. Haight, but I think we can safely assume that she, and John Peet and Mr. and Mrs. Jones are all sincerely convinced of the rights of their conflicting cases, and that good documentary evidence will probably be found to support them.

I would even go further and suggest that the real trouble is our failure to define censorship adequately. Censorship is in fact infinitely more subtle than would appear from the correspondence quoted above. For instance, severely edited versions of both *Mein Kampf* and *Lady Chatterley's Lover* were the only editions (in English) available to the general public in Britain prior to the war: this is the kind of situation where, on the one hand, an incautious propagandist could say that both works were freely available in large quantities throughout the country, while the critics could claim that only misleading and worthless editions had been offered to readers. Again, if a publisher refuses to publish a book, a kind of censorship exists: thus, the prosecution of those responsible for the issue of one work will—whether successful or not—have much influence on the publisher's verdict on any border-line candidate offered to him immediately afterwards. This applies not only to domestic censorship cases, but also to those which occur in other countries: publishers are brave men, but in order to survive they must be able to estimate accurately popular and official reaction, and for this developments overseas provide some guidance. The degree to which censorship can be imposed through the discrimination of publishers is one which has never—and probably never can be—thoroughly examined.

There are also other aspects of censorship through publication. Thus, the compilers of a recent bibliography of Soviet translations of foreign literature point out that during the late twenties and early thirties when many English-language books were translated into Russian, the editions published were comparatively small in comparison to the total Russian population, so that circulation of such translations outside the circles of the intelligentsia of Moscow, Leningrad, and one or two other great cities, was inevitably limited. Now, conscious or not, this is an extremely effective method of curtailing the influence of books while superficially maintaining freedom of action. Even where a sufficient number of copies of a publication is actually issued, their effect can still be nullified, as in the case of the Bethal issue of *Drum* which—says Anthony Sampson—"sold out. The first urgent issue for more supplies came from our agents at Bethal: we discovered that the Bethal farmers had bought up bulk supplies from the agents, and burnt them, to stop Africans reading them" (page 48). Or again, the library may step in: the Hon. Editor of this journal, Mr. W. G. Smith, points out two recent cases—a booklet from the Slovak National Library which refers to "the elimination of politically unsuitable literature," which contrasts with *The Times* report that the American League of Decency is protesting against

the film *Storm Centre* in which a librarian successfully resists a Town Council's attempt to have a pro-Communist book removed from a public library.

There are minor forms of censorship, too: the librarian's action in making certain books available only on request is an act of censorship, since quite a number of people will hesitate to ask for books of a political, religious, or moral questionable nature. A less easily recognisable form of censorship would be the action of a librarian or library committee in refusing to buy such books for their libraries on the plea of their "limited appeal."

One of the most extraordinary forms of censorship at the present time is the lack of Western technical books in several countries. Reports from East Germany, China, Yugoslavia, and other lands show that British and American technical books on such subjects as radio, electronics, engineering, etc., are in short supply, in spite of the demand for such works. Readers may ask, is this not rather a question of currency than censorship, but it is doubtful whether the amount of currency needed for importing foreign technical books would have any effect on the financial position of nations of this size.

The truth is that censorship can take innumerable shapes and is not always recognisable at the time. It would be helpful and instructive to compile a guide (with actual examples) to the main forms of censorship, but this would still not prove effective by itself against future variants. Fortunately, librarians are well equipped to identify censorship for what it is, and our plain duty must be to take care that when censorship does occur, we do our best to name it so that the community can decide whether it wishes to have its freedom of action restricted. Mrs. Haight, in her book, may possibly have given some instances which no longer apply, but her main task was well done: she did not hesitate to call censorship by its true name, whether it occurred in the U.S.A. or Germany, Britain or the U.S.S.R.—a model which we (and Mr. Peet) would do well to follow.

WOODFIELD & STANLEY

LIMITED

SPECIALISTS IN CHILDREN'S BOOKS

BROOKFIELD MILLS, KIRKBURTON, HUDDERSFIELD

AND

THE CHILDREN'S BOOKSHOP

64, GREAT RUSSELL STREET, LONDON, W.C.1.

The Dam Busters

A DAMNED GOOD BOOK was Eric Moon's verdict on McColvin's *The Chance to Read*, but his language brought protests from some of our female readers. Most of our correspondents, however, support Mr. Moon, and some have combined their comment on this with their views on Alan Thomas's theories of moral book selection.

Moon's Malignant Morals

AN OPEN LETTER TO MR. MOON.

You have been found guilty by the state of "Stuffshirtopia" on a grave indictment. Do you not feel remorse that your obscene utterances have offended our young people of both sexes, that your work, if falling into the hands of the simple-minded unwary reader would give rise to a malignant moral infection.

Consider the alarming rise in the incidence of crime should your reviews be read by the unsuspecting and morally uplifted Hibernians. Remember, sir, that we, striving for the highest intellectual attainment and moral tone will not tolerate such degradation. Our Big Brothers who have given their all to place the pornography of Boccaccio beyond the reach of the simple-minded command that your adjectives be confined to "Stimulating, Superlative, Excellent, Very Good or Nice."

We sentence that your foul scribbles be removed to a place from whence it may be sought only by the purposive student of literature, who like Brutus is an honourable man, able to use his discrimination in his choice of reading.

JACK GALT, *Devon County Library.*

Piety and Pedantry

My first reading of the three letters in the October *Assistant* headed "Morals of Book Selection" and "What the Hell!" gave me the impression that the Editor had written them himself to satirise the solemn, unctuous style usually adopted by the lunatic fringe of writers to the Press when they turn their attention to the world of books. How well the antics of the Moral Guardians were guyed. The use of the French lawyer and his opinions on literature and crime was masterly. The piety and pedantry of the rebukes on Mr. Moon's use of the word "damned" were pitched in just the right key.

A second reading of the letters brought doubts. Suppose these juvenile prigs were real—and worse—suppose they believed the nonsense they had written.

My first reaction to such a depressing idea was the sincere hope that, if it were true, then all three—especially the would-be censor—would quickly leave the profession. But an alternative is perhaps possible. With good will a remedy may be found. May I then appeal to the young women of Lewisham and the young men of Kent and Manchester to make an attempt to improve the practical education of this dismal trio. A forbidding task enough, and drastic action may be needed, but it might result in these three non-pareils joining the human race.

D. J. SIMPSON, *Nottingham Public Libraries.*

May I say that Mr. Moon's use of *That Word* merely confirmed for me that he had read the book!

W. J. MURISON, *County Librarian, Antrim County Library.*

Accustomed as we are to journalese, that appearing in our professional press will surely be passed over by those of us with common sense.

We suffer much from the over earnest, and the pseudo intellectual librarian. Both do our profession little good in the eyes of the public we serve. Calculated outspokenness is unlikely to harm us. Our committees may often be in need of more than they get!

Few of us have the unlimited time or the ability to write perfect prose, or even to speak perfect English. But hasn't Mr. Moon's review made us want to examine *The Chance to Read*?

As to the offending pseudo-adjective, doubtless Mr. Moon doesn't care a "Tinker's cuss" anyway!

JUNE E. CATCHPOLE, *Lincolnshire County Library.*

"Moonin"

Our Moon is in eclipse, I fear,
The library girls can't bear to hear
His language foul and strong.

So Mr. Moon should you aspire
To climb the library ladder higher,
Please moderate your tongue.

The female is the weaker sex,
And this can't half make things complex,
Oh——! Don't we have fun!

S. J. PAGET, *Folkestone Public Library.*

Blue Moon

May I add a word regarding the Blue Moon controversy. How many persons nowadays regard "damned" as a swear word?

LESLIE E. S. DARBY, *Ealing Libraries.*

CRAMER'S for MUSIC

MUSICAL LITERATURE
AND MUSIC BINDING

139, New Bond Street
London, W.1

★ Special Music Enquiry Bureau



NEW VOLUME
JUST STARTING

Newcomers
ARE
WELCOME

H. KARNAC
(BOOKS)
LTD.

58, GLOUCESTER RD.,
LONDON, S.W.7.
WESTERN 7908.

New and Secondhand Books on
all subjects.

Who Killed Cock Robin?

By Alan R. Eager, Royal Dublin Society

The other evening I was sitting in a comfortable position in my roll of armchair cricketer, listening to the commentary on the Test match. The commentator was starting to say something edifying, when Susan, my elder daughter, created her usual evening diversion. In the jargon of cricket S.S.P. had occurred, i.e. Susan stopped play. I compromised with her, which meant the wireless was turned off. She had mentioned the two magic words "Dadda, book," which indicates that the time had come, as the Walrus was prone to remark, for her nightly pre-bedtime reading, which, in actual fact, is an extract from *My First Book of Nursery Rhymes*, coupled with liberal annotations for a clearer rendering of text and illustrations.

Here I must digress for a moment and state that I live in Ireland (I am an Irishman), where there is a strict censorship of publications. Further I consider myself broadminded to a fair degree—and disagree with the banning of *Alice in Wonderland* in China, but I do feel, most emphatically, that *My First Book of Nursery Rhymes* is not quite the thing for young readers, many of the subjects mentioned or hinted being quite unfit. Take for example Cock Robin. Quite innocuous you may see. What hidden meanings lie behind the words! Let us treat it to a hypercritical examination similar to the criticisms fashionable nowadays when dealing with Joyce, Yeats or even Pound. The latter in my opinion has a language fixation, presumably influenced by Freud or the adverse balance of trade.

My dearest Jenny Wren,
If you will but be mine,
You shall dine on cherry pie
And drink nice currant wine.

Apart from the obvious gluttony in this verse there is a total undermining of the work of Alcoholics Anonymous.

Further on we have a description of the guests arriving at the wedding, culminating in the following verse:

The Sparrow and the Tomtit,
And many more were there,
ALL came to see the wedding
Of Jennie Wren the Fair.

(Author's note: THE CAPITALS ARE MINE).

It need hardly be pointed out the impossibility of everybody "knocking off" at the same time. Sma'll wonder that we have automation. Then follows several innocuous verses lulling the gentle reader into a false sense of security, and we are almost, but not quite, unprepared for the following verse:

When in came the Cuckoo,
And made a great rout,
He caught hold of Jenny,
And pulled her about.

This is unashamedly a description of the Teddy Boy at work. Note the use of the term "Cuckoo," a connotation of insanity, e.g. "He's Cuckoo," also the terms "a great rout" possibly an ex-army man (more likely a deserter) and "pulling her about," a masterly understatement

for those of us who can read between the lines.

Once violence has been introduced into this saga, the author repeats further recordings of deeds of violence, e.g.:

The Sparrow . . . fetched in a hurry
His bow and arrow.
Also, His skill was not good,
Or he shot in a fright;
And again, For the Cuckoo he missed,
And Cock Robin he killed.

Readers should note carefully *en passant* that Cock Robin is undoubtedly responsible for all the juvenile Davy Crocketts in our midst to-day.

Blood Suckers

It can be seen, *supra*, that third degree murder has taken place, but worse is to follow, recalling to mind Lewis's *The Monk* and other novelists of the Gothic school, e.g.:

Who caught his blood?
I, said the Fish,
With my little dish,
I caught his blood.

Things are now turning rather sanguinary, and I hesitate to elaborate further, on account of those with weak stomachs (or for the Non-U's, abdomens). I cannot let this verse pass without commenting on the use of the little dish. Would our Health Officers kindly check up on this with a view to regularising the uses and non-uses to which little dishes may be put?

Then follows glaring examples of the curse of modern commerce—the go slow policy, or slacking on the job. I will capitalise the relevant lines:

Who'll make the shroud?
I, said the Beetle,
WITH MY THREAD AND NEEDLE,
I'll make his shroud.

Here the Beetle, by using antiquated methods, is prolonging the job, obviously with time-and-a-half in mind. The obvious solution is an electric sewing machine:

Who'll carry the link?
I, said the Linnet,
I'LL FETCH IT IN A MINUTE,
I'll carry the link.

This is an example of the *ad nauseam* procrastinator type who hangs around waiting for someone to fill up forms in triplicate. Here follows a verse in similar vein:

Who'll be the clerk?
I, said the Lark,
IF IT'S NOT IN THE DARK,
I'll be the clerk.

Now we have the 100 per cent. trade unionist. If conditions are not right, he'll sit around for two or three hours until his mate makes the tea. You might say the lark is an exception. Take the case of the Thrush:

Who'll sing the psalm?
I, said the Thrush,
AS HE SAT ON THE BUSH,
I'll sing the psalm.

The phrase, "as he sat on a bush," is the equivalent of "as he leaned on his spade." Here, as an ex-chorister, I can speak with authority. Singing to be carried out correctly must be accomplished in an upright position, and the soberer the better:

Who'll toll the bell?
I, said the Bull,
BECAUSE I CAN PULL,
I'll toll the bell.

Possibly belongs to the trade union school of thought, or a case of every Bull to his job, which has results similar to a recent case of a broken window. For this you need five or six characters. Obviously you need a person to break the window, or the group which follows would be redundant. Next comes the glazier's mate, who, before going shopping prior to making the tea, extracts the remaining pieces of glass from the window sash. Here there is a pause to ensure that the carpenter is standing by in case there are a few nails requiring extraction. Meanwhile the glazier is lolling idly nearby picking the winner of the 4.30 at Newmarket, daydreaming of his hourly rate. There are so many characters standing about that one is unable to ascertain to which member falls the job of administering the putty. A painter terminates proceedings with the customary brush off.

I must apologise for the slight digression, but I am sure Susan would agree (she is not yet two years old, and remember, she started all this). While not burning *My Favourite Book of Nursery Rhymes*, I have decided to place it out of her reach for the present. This, I feel, is a wise move, as the spine is broken (very), the stitching is loose, plate number three is half torn, pages one to sixteen are missing, and the text begins on page seventeen sic: What are little boys made of? Need I say more?

* * *

Censorship

The Catholic Point of View

**By V. P. Richards, Public Library Commission, Dawson Creek
Canada**

About a year ago a letter of mine was published in the *L.A. Record* arising out of a correspondence about the censorship of books. At the time, while not agreeing with some of Mr. Alan Thomas' ideas, I would have sided with his views.

However, after a long study of the question, I decided I was wrong, and quite definitely say Mr. Thomas is also wrong. The principal things which changed my mind were these. First, before you start talking about morals you must have a moral code in mind. Now some people will argue that morals are relative, some that they don't exist, but that we must adopt some code of social ethics and "correct attitudes," others

that there is a definite moral code founded on natural law and (or) religious beliefs. The imposition of one of these moral viewpoints on someone subscribing to another, violates freedom of conscience.

The second point is that censorship is very hard to put into practice fairly and accurately, just read the available literature on the subject and you will find many examples of censorship that are just idiotic. Thirdly, once you admit the principle of censorship, exactly where does one define a limit? Communists and some Americans have forms of political censorship, probably in good faith, because certain ideas are disrupting and lead to social disturbances. Look where this idea can lead to.

Finally I decided there was only one reasonable censorship—censorship by the individual reader. If I think a book will do me some moral harm, I don't read it. The "simple-minded unwary reader" that Mr. Thomas cites is quite capable, if he has any moral principles, of closing a book. The same goes for turning off a television switch or walking out of a cinema (if the posters haven't already convinced him he shouldn't walk in).

For the very simple-minded and intelligent there are moral guides—society, education and religious or philosophical beliefs. Take for example the Catholic Church, it will denounce certain types of books or particular authors as being morally harmful to read. Now Catholics don't mind this, they know the Church is probably right, it's been in business close on two thousand years and knows an awful lot about human nature. If a Catholic has a sufficiently good reason to read a type of book he has been warned about, he may do so. If he has no good reason, he has been warned and it is a matter for his conscience—no one else's.

I wondered what the Church's attitude was to the moral aspects of book selection, so I wrote to the Cardinal Archbishop of Westminster's theologian. The reply I received was substantially this: no Catholic responsible for book selection in a public library system has a right to use censorship (which amounts to Mr. Thomas' "stricter selection"), because his duty is to provide all types of books for people with different ideas. It is a duty implicate in the nature of the work a librarian does. However, a Catholic librarian would have a duty to point out to a fellow Catholic known to him, that a particular book he is thinking of reading falls into a category which needs the exercise of some moral judgment (for example Gide, which Mr. Thomas mentions, is on the *Index*).

Now my main point is this, if a competent theologian of the Catholic Church, which is considered by some to be unreasonable in the matter of some types of reading, points out that a librarian, Catholic or otherwise, has no right to impose any form of censorship on books, then to ask librarians as a body to do so is extremely dangerous and foolish.

Final moral judgment *must* be left to the individual conscience; God in endowing man with free-will leaves a man's conscience free to choose between good and evil, so why should very fallible librarians try and do the opposite. If they want to improve people's morals, by all means they should, but by personal example and through mediums such as education, social thinking, philosophy and religion—these are the proper spheres, not librarianship.

This is all the Freeman of the City of London were doing, using a social medium to warn people about certain kinds of reading. The quotation given by Mr. Thomas is true, but it only warns the individual, it doesn't give one ounce of support to Mr. Thomas' ideas on censorship.

Censorship in Ireland

What a pity Mr. Thomas did not elaborate on the recent trial in France where it was claimed that reading was responsible for crime, e.g., what was the nature of the crime, also, whether it was proved satisfactorily, by cross-examination, that the defendant had a good knowledge "of certain modern authors (notably Gide and Sartre)." One authority here states that the greatest crime in Ireland at present is emigration, due to the reading of certain modern authors (notably Australian and Canadian).

With regard to "exposing the simple-minded unwary reader (*rara avis*) to the continuous danger of moral infection," the danger is more imaginative than real, provided the librarian is competent. Librarians with experience surely do not "display on open shelves works of *all moral levels*" as Mr. Thomas states—which is tantamount to admitting that there is no policy of book selection whatever. I might cite here the case of the members of the Irish Censorship Board who have been exposed to immoral radiation from thousands of indecent and obscene works over a great number of years, and apart from an occasional resignation, apparently brought on by some form of literary myopia, show no sign of a lapse, degenerate or otherwise.

The trouble with the Irish Censorship of Publications Act lies not in the Act, but in the interpretation. The Act was undoubtedly framed originally to ban the salacious type of book, but is now being interpreted in such a way that works of O'Casey, O'Faolain, O'Connor, Macken and other reputable writers are being branded as obscene. In spite of this the Censorship has its admirers, e.g. one county librarian praised the work of the Board saying it was an aid to book selection!

Finally, we have crime and criminals similar to other "civilised" countries, and though these facts are not always reported in the papers, our courts are kept reasonably busy.

ALAN R. EAGER, *Royal Dublin Society.*

Mr. Thomas appears to be advocating the censorship system which is present in "book selection" in Eire.

The Irish form of book censorship takes two forms:—the official banning of books considered "indecent" etc., by the Government appointed Censorship Board (composed of Catholics); and the unofficial "banning" by local public library committees and priests.

The lists* of works considered "unsuitable" are, of course, well known: it is strange to find an English library assistant supporting such ridiculous bigotry and cultural adolescence. Our English public librarians can surely be relied upon to practice their book-selection with a little common-sense.

Censorship of the kind put forward as "desirable" by Mr. Thomas would be fatal to the spirit of our public libraries, and I feel that we should be on our guard at all times against suggestions such as these. W. B. Yeats once said of censorship—"I think you can leave the arts, superior or inferior, to the general conscience of mankind." Having excluded pornography from our shelves, may we not leave "the moral aspects of book selection" to the reader?

I hope that Mr. Thomas stands alone in holding the views which he professes.

H. D. GOODWIN, *Chester Public Library.*

*BLANSHARD, Paul—*The Irish and Catholic Power*, 1954.

HAIGHT, Anne Lyon—*Banned books* . . . , 1955.

I can think of no better method of starting a study of the morals of book selection than that suggested by Mr. Thomas in his letter in the October

Assistant Librarian. By all means examine the practice obtaining in Ireland (and I suppose he means the Republic of Ireland). On one point however we must have assurance, and that is that he would invite the Librarians of that country to comment on the system as *they* now find it.

W. J. MURISON, *County Librarian, Antrim County Library.*

Some Dangerous Literature

If the censorship of books was adopted by librarians to prevent the "simple-minded unwary reader" from becoming morally infected, practically the whole field of human knowledge would have to be vetted. Philosophy, religion, sociology, anthropology, medicine and the whole of pure literature all contain those "germs of moral infection." In practice it would seem if this was carried to its logical conclusion, that a reversion to the system of closed access would be the only effective method of achieving complete control.

We are asked to examine the practice in Ireland concerning the censorship of books and the lower incidence of crime. Eire is a Roman Catholic country, and the books which fail to meet with approval on moral or religious grounds are excluded by the Censorship of Publications Act. The following books (taken from *The Bookseller*, June 23rd, 1956, p. 1646) are amongst some which have recently been banned:—

Church, R., *The Dangerous Years.*

Danielsson, B., *Love in the South Seas.*

Loewenthal, K., *The World was Old.*

Moore, D., *We Live in Singapore.*

Ricketts, R., *The Manikin.*

Scarrott, M., *Ambassador of Loss.*

Smith, C. P., *Artillery of Time.*

Van Siller, *Bermuda Murder.*

Considering these books (and others which are listed frequently in *The Bookseller*) it would be difficult, even for the most narrow-minded, to associate them with a direct influence on crime. If this was so then surely in this country, under the constant influence of gangster films in the cinema and on television (both media not being available to the large majority of the population of Eire), and the tremendous output of crime, murder, mystery and thriller novels, the figures for crime should be much higher than they are.

The main reason for the banning of the majority of books in Eire seems to be because of the treatment—or mal-treatment—of the subject of sex. Since sexual offences represent but a small fraction of those crimes committed in this country, the banning of the majority of books in Eire would not seem to be very tenuously related with the purported absence of crime.

Recently, under the auspices of the American Library Association, an annotated list was compiled called *Books that Changed the World*. The editors have attempted some analysis of sixteen books, and one of their findings is that for the most part the authors were either revolutionists, radicals, non-conformists or fanatics. The effect, good or bad, of these books might be questioned, but the fact remains that arbitrary censorship of literature could be dangerous if it denied freedom of expression to any philosophy, or religion not currently accepted.

Any form of censorship by librarians would have to be nationally controlled in order to be effective, and any form of national censorship would be quite undesirable and undemocratic.

The Librarian is responsible to the community. It is his responsibility to meet the demands and needs of the community, and in performing this duty he must necessarily be impartial in his book selection.

DEREK JONES, *Lambeth Public Libraries.*

Danger to Libraries

By Edward Dudley

Mr. Thomas's letter was no doubt intended to revive the controversy which reached its height a year or so ago when prosecutions of publishers, printers, booksellers and authors were almost commonplace. As a result, many public librarians became rather sensitive to the charge of buying obscene books or, to say the least, took greater care than usual that the charge was not levelled. J. T. Gillett, in a paper to a meeting of the London and Home Counties Branch of the Library Association made no claims to offer a solution to the librarian's dilemma—that of whether to buy and run the risk of being accused of having dirty books in his library or not to buy and be charged with mean and petty censorship. But there are many who will support his view that this matter tends to obscure far greater shortcomings in the building of libraries' stocks—that too many public librarians pay insufficient attention to the book needs of what L. R. McColvin calls "purposive" readers. It may be a case of "first things first," and that librarians should get down to the job in hand, but this should not, I think, lead to a situation where we are unprepared to face the whole problem of censorship.

Most of the public concern and the professional discussion has been on the matter of the portrayal in books of sexual relationships, normal and aberrant (if, post-Kinsey, these terms have any precise meaning). To a lesser extent there is concern with the glorification of violence. Without minimising their importance, these aspects of the censorship of books cannot be held to be as fundamental as censorship of ideas—social, political, religious, economic or scientific. I presume that this needs no demonstration—to librarians, at least. The point is raised here because I think that the last series of moves against obscene, or allegedly obscene, literature has found many librarians unprepared and confused. The evidence is to be found in the sorry little rows of books withheld from general circulation, the "blue" collections, *The Naked and the Dead* in the reference library and the books in stock, but not catalogued. Shall we be clearer in our minds of the course we should take if books of ideas come under fire from reactionaries, revolutionaries or reformers? Shall we know how to stand our ground and be ready to put into practice the oft-repeated but still valid principle of "without fear or favour, without prejudice to race, colour and creed"?

It may be argued that all this is rather hypothetical, cries of "wolf" with no shadows on the threshold; that the danger of censorship of books for various unorthodoxies is remote. It is true that we are in this country relatively free from most forms of censorship, although the Lord Chamberlain's banning from the commercial stage of Arthur Miller's *View from the Bridge* has prompted many protests, e.g., Peter Ustinov's spirited letter to the *Sunday Times*, 21st October, 1956. It is also true that apart from the occasional Whitehall move for security reasons and the restrictions upon the use of State archives (e.g., the Casement diaries) there is no restraint or censorship *before* publication other than that a publisher cares to impose. In the more progressive public libraries there is little or no interference by Libraries Committees with the Librarians' duty to select books. One must admit, however, that in too many authorities (dare I say mainly smaller ones?) there is in book selection a remnant of the earlier tradition when the parson and the schoolmaster selected the books because the librarian was not competent. It is also odd to note in passing that even in those libraries where the librarian has a completely free hand in book selection, many committees

still maintain a token of their former power and select newspapers and periodicals. Thus we read from time to time in the local or evening newspapers that such and such a library has refused to provide the *Catholic Herald*, the *Daily Worker* or the *Christian Science Monitor*—by decision of the committee. But can we say with certainty that the need to defend our libraries' bookstocks against censorship will never arise—that a book stating a very *minor and unpopular* unorthodoxy will never be publicly assailed on the grounds that it gives offence to the opinions held by the majority of right-thinking people or that it contains material likely to corrupt our youth, and that therefore copies should not be bought from public funds? The standardising effect of the mass of popular publications, films, radio and television programmes, which in seeking to give the "public what it wants" merely confirms that public in its tastes and prejudices, is relevant here. We do not see this compound phenomenon as an enemy of books *in itself*—indeed there is much evidence that modern communications lead to a greater awareness of the value of books—but we dare not ignore the accompanying inherent danger with its threat of producing an intolerance of that which does not conform. The campaign by some newspapers against such bodies as the Arts Council, the British Council, U.N.E.S.C.O. and the B.B.C. for its "unpopular" Third Programme is surely a symptom of anti-intellectual re-action, that is opposition to ideas as if intellectual is an ugly word. I believe, in short, that in spite of British levelheadedness, respect for the other chap's point of view and the tradition of fighting for our liberties and jealously guarding them when won, there is at the *present moment* a far greater danger to our book stocks and freedom of book selection from what is misnamed "public" opinion than from any immediate overt political or governmental action. The pressure groups are just around the corner.

IT CAN HAPPEN HERE

You may reply that "it can't happen here." This was my initial reaction on reading Paul Blanshard's *The Right to Read* (Boston, Beacon Press, \$3.50, 1955) which has so far received no review in our professional press. The sub-title of the book is "The battle against censorship," and the author investigates, with copious documentation, the forms of book censorship in his country. It is in part a terrifying picture of many forms of non-governmental control and repression—by the American Legion, the National Organization of Decent Literature and the Daughters of the American Revolution for example. Governmental control is not lacking. The Postmaster General has powers to declare unavailable anything which he considers obscene—powers which he used when he banned copies of the *Little Review* in 1918 when it published *Ulysses* in instalments. But Blanshard's book is hopeful; he also shows that in the U.S.A. there is a fighting defence of the right to read. An example is Clarence Darrow's trouncing of William Jennings Bryan during the trial in Tennessee of a teacher who had taught the theory of evolution in school and had used a textbook subscribing to that concept of development. Tennessee had forbidden this in state legislation. Our colleagues in the U.S.A. have not been idle or dormant during the period when political hysteria stilled many liberal or dissenting voices; the American Library Association has organized a Committee on Intellectual Freedom which produced the Library Bill of Rights.

It is a book which will teach us more about freedom for the book and the library than a thousand "Storm Centres." But don't put it only in your staff library—our readers need this book, too, for they are librarians' potential allies against the censors.

New Light on Lear

By Brian R. Ingram.

"... This is not criticism, but public assistance," wrote Edwin Muir a few years back. He was dealing with the modern trend of exposition as opposed to true criticism of obscure poetry. A chance re-reading of these words encouraged the present author to attempt some "public assistance" on the seemingly meaningless and innocuous limericks of Edward Lear. Some brief biographical facts coupled with a little ingenuity produced the rather staggering conclusions which follow.

There can be few readers who have a catholic taste who are unfamiliar with the Nonsense Limericks of Edward Lear, although they may have cast these charming trifles behind them as being mere childish babblings more suited to the nursery than the study. Many of these people, if not all, may be surprised to learn that there is a wealth of communist doctrine concealed within each one.

It is no wonder that Lear turned radical when the circumstances of his birth and rearing are considered. Of Danish origin and thus one of a minority under the heel of British Imperialism that imprisoned his father and forced his mother to slave for her family. A family of twenty-five into the bargain, which gave young Edward an early taste of the misery of the masses. Living in Highgate where the anarchist has always found a safe refuge, Lear came early into contact with free-thinkers.

His talent as an ornithological artist brought him to the notice of the Earl of Derby, who took the young painter to Knowsley. His popularity with the ducal children gave Lear the idea of spreading the tenets of his creed through the medium of the nonsense rhymes which so charmed the folk at Knowsley. The limericks were not published until ten years after composition, but certainly had a wide circulation in manuscript, in which form they came to the notice of an unusually intelligent civil servant who, after duly triplicating his suspicions, caused the young man to pack his traps and leave England. So, from 1838 onwards, Lear spent most of his life abroad.

Facts, for the Gradgrinds among my readers, and analysis of several limericks taken at random, may throw some light:

There was a Young Person of Smyrna,
Whose grandmother threatened to burn her;
But she seized on the cat,
And said, "Granny, burn that!
You incongruous Old Person of Smyrna!"

Here is direct encouragement of the cruel instincts of children, and advocacy of the provision of an innocent scapegoat, that essential adjunct of a totalitarian state:

There was an Old Person of Rhodes,
Who strongly objected to toads;
He paid several cousins
To catch them by dozens,
That futile Old Person of Rhodes.

Here again he quite openly advocates the suppression of weak minorities, and also foreshadows the secret police that have become a real force in our modern way of life under the guise of State Security Committees. Typically, the Old Person of Rhodes does not catch the

toads himself, but employs his cousins or henchmen to rout out these harmless creatures. The Night of the Long Knives or the Baltic deportations might have been inspired by this limerick:

There was an Old Man of th' Abruzzi,
So blind he couldn't his foot see;
When they said "That's your toe!"
He replied, "Is that so?"
That doubtful Old Man of th' Abruzzi.

The ruling classes, the bosses or capitalist hyenas in modern communist doubletalk, have ever failed to take heed of the danger signals beneath their tottering thrones, and in this limerick Lear succinctly gives the warning:

There was an Old Man of Jamaica,
Who suddenly married a Quaker;
But she cried out, "Alack!
I have married a black!"
Which distressed that Old Man of Jamaica.

What more pertinent way of summing up the insoluble colour question can be imagined, and yet what a lack of finesse!

While giving him credit for the understanding he shows for the feelings of the Jamaican, we must not overlook the rather significant fact of the lady being a Quaker. It is not simply for the rhyme. Lear consistently attacked the whole fabric of religion, and never more blatantly than in the following:

There was an Old Person of Dutton,
Whose head was as small as a button:
So, to make it look big,
He purchased a wig,
And rapidly rushed about Dutton.

The small head is intended to represent the emptiness of religious creeds, while the wig is obviously supposed to be the many ceremonies and rituals that conceal this lack of substance. Then this Duttonian rushes about for no apparent reason, except to give the impression of extreme importance. Lear's own illustration to this limerick confirms the interpretation, as the wig is of the type usually worn by clergymen in the eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries. Even more subtle is Lear's choice of Dutton as the location of the episode, lying as it does in that district of Cheshire where brine is pumped from underground salt deposits, causing widespread subsidences. An inference that the organised religions were slowly crumbling.

After what virtually amounted to banishment abroad, although he was later accepted as harmless in the country of his birth, Lear must surely have been financed by the revolutionaries on his visits to southern Europe. Here, in the guise of an innocent tourist, he made careful drawings of various strategic points, all of which were for use in future uprisings engendered by his masters in the sewers of St. Petersburg. Such supposition may be a distortion of fact, but can we ignore the following extract taken from his *Journal of a Landscape Painter in Calabria*, dated 1847:

"A throng of numerous persons crowded round us while drawing the castle this morning. 'These,' said an old man as we were busily employed, 'These are all persons chosen by their governments to gather notices of our country.' A conceit universally ridiculed by Englishmen, but not quite so absurd as it may seem, if we reflect that the conquest of many countries by others has been preceded

by individual observation and research."

The year following this occurrence was one of almost universal revolution in Europe: Italy attempted to throw off the Austrian yolk: Austria herself deposed the tyrant Metternich and shook off the chains of feudalism: France, where the people of Paris once more rallied round the barricades. Even in England the Chartist riots shook the country to its roots.

Eighteen forty-eight. Two years after the publication of the first book of limericks. It is, surely, perfectly plain that Edward Lear was one of the disciples of the revolutionary movement.

Few Fireworks in November

November 1st, 1956, will probably be remembered by many as a day when political circles were concerned exclusively with foreign affairs and what has been referred to in certain high-circulation dailies as "Eden's folly." The A.A.L. Council usually contrives to be different, and on this day of high drama it concerned itself almost wholly with domestic issues, managing to be duller, more prickly and less constructive than at any time during the current year.

COUNCIL NOTES, NOVEMBER, 1956.

The Folkestone aftermath appeared as an omnibus item on the agenda, covering a lengthy report by the Honorary Secretary, a memorandum by Miss Willson and A. C. Jones on institutional membership and the need for an organisation for professional librarians, and a hard-hitting motion from the Sussex Division calling for a "non-subsidized" A.G.M. held separately from the conference. The President concentrated attention upon the Willson-Jones memorandum which presented, without conclusions, most of the main issues which have been mentioned and which merit further consideration. An unprecedented number of speakers are recorded on this item, but the limitations of space can only be defied sufficiently to enable me to mention the contribution by Mr. Carver, which was a plea for action to remove the vote on professional matters from both authority members and the unqualified members of the Association. His sincere and statesmanlike speech closed to a burst of spontaneous applause, something I do not recall previously during my term of office.

The President observed that it was unlikely that the Council would be able to reach an immediate decision, and suggested consultations between our Honorary Officers and those of the Library Association as a desirable first step.

Mr. J. H. Jones advanced again the Sussex view that the A.G.M. should be held separately from the conference, and maintained that this was valid whatever the decision on the broader issues. The President, testing the climate of opinion, found it overwhelmingly in Mr. Jones's favour.

Outstanding among the many items of report was the news of the great success of the Display School held at Finchley the previous week-end. Nearly 150 members had attended this useful pioneer venture, and the Council warmly recorded its gratitude to Julian Lendon (Herts. Co.), whose tireless work and organisation had been the main contribution—among many—to the success of the school. Thanks were recorded also to Mr. Reynolds and the Finchley staff.

Our representatives on the L.A. Council next year are to be, as is customary, the President (Miss Willson) and Hon. Secretary. L.A. Committee representatives nominated were J. S. Davey (Education), R. G. Surridge (Membership), W. G. Smith (Publications) and A. C. Jones (Conference Sub-Committee).

Mr. Phillips used the occasion of the Publications Committee's report to object to the last issue of these notes, which contained a report of the close election at the last Council of next year's Vice-President. Mr. Phillips felt that the report was "lacking in courtesy to the dignity of the office." The Hon. Secretary replied that it was good that competition should exist for the higher offices of the Association, and good also that members should know of it, if

only to counteract the view, held in some quarters, that it is only a question of "fixing up jobs for the boys."

The Education Committee report was received fairly quietly, but only because the more contentious items had been transferred to the Finance Committee. When the Hon. Treasurer read their report, Mr. Phillips opened with what he called his "usual question" on the financial statement. He received the usual reply—that a statement is not a balance sheet, and that it took no account of the considerable assets in the form of publications in Mr. Davey's back-room (Davey's locker!) The President presumed that the Yorkshire Division would rather receive a given number of pounds as capitation than several dozen copies of Mr. Phillips' Primer. Yorkshire rose at this, in the form of Mr. Thompson, who "while not wishing to agree with Mr. Phillips in any way," expressed concern at "the alarmist statements of the Hon. Treasurer" concerning our declining financial balance. He felt that our balances were not draining away, but that they had been reduced by deliberate changes in policy.

The two main battles fought over the Finance Committee's report were on items which had emanated from the Education Committee originally. A joint conference for tutors is being sponsored by the A.A.L. and the Standing Committee on Education for Librarianship (London Region). The Education Committee felt that it is in the interests of the A.A.L. that as many as possible of its correspondence course tutors should attend the conference, and they had recommended that the fares of all these tutors should be paid by the Council. The Finance Committee's amendment that fares over £1 should be paid, finally carried the day.

The second debate also arose out of the Education Committee's desire for philanthropic gestures. The recommendation was made that an award of 5 guineas should be made to the correspondence course student achieving the highest marks in the First Professional Examination at each sitting. There was a great deal of what Mr. Phillips called "niggardly" discussion of the form the prize should take and the way it should be awarded before the final decision was reached that it should be a cash prize, and would be handed over at a Divisional meeting. The President's suggestion that it should be called *The Martin Award* in recognition of the unique services given by Mr. and Mrs. Martin to correspondence course students over a period of some twenty-five years was welcomed by the Council.

After hearing the reports of our representatives on the L.A. Council and committees, Council received Divisional views on a proposal to compile and publish a minimum list of bibliographies which should be taken by all public libraries. It was decided to take no further action on this for the time being.

The meeting closed with a vote of thanks by Miss Willson, who expressed the Council's appreciation for a year of witty and efficient chairmanship by the President. It is to be hoped that as W. Tynemouth, Past President, he will carry his controlling influence to the rebel back-bench next year.

ERIC MOON.

An A.A.L. Publication.

Primer of

Assistance To Readers

NEW EDITION.

By Philip Hepworth, M.A., F.R.S.A., F.L.A.

As the future of this section of the syllabus is in doubt, the new edition is published in a special economy format which will not normally be used for A.A.L. books.

Order from the Honorary Education and Sales Officer, 49, Halstead Gardens, London, N.21.

Price 8s. 0d. (10s. 6d. to non-members).

A. M. HALDANE

LTD.



**WE SPECIALISE IN
CHILDREN'S BOOKS**



B.N.B. ORDERS



SPECIAL REQUESTS



PROMPT SERVICE
especially in the London
Area



**5, DENMARK STREET,
CHARING CROSS ROAD,
W.C.2**

COVent Garden 0488

A Modern Library Bindery

THIS fully illustrated brochure, describing our methods of dealing on a large scale with library binding throughout all the different processes, has long been used by library assistants as a textbook. It is available to library assistants on receipt of a postal order for 1s. 3d.

B. RILEY & CO. LTD.

**LIBRARY BINDERS AND
BOOKSELLERS**

**366 LEEDS ROAD
HUDDERSFIELD**

**CITY OF LEEDS
EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

FINAL LIBRARIANSHIP COURSES

Enquiries and applications are invited for the 1957-58 full time course for the Final Examination of the Library Association. —Write to Leeds School of Librarianship, 43, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds 2.

GEORGE TAYLOR,
Chief Education Officer.

ASSOCIATION OF ASSISTANT LIBRARIANS
(Section of the Library Association)

* * * * *

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION A.G.M.

The August issue of the Library Association Record contains the agenda for the Annual General Meeting to be held at Folkestone on 19th September, 1956, at 4 p.m.

This agenda includes a number of motions which are of vital interest to the membership at large, several being concerned with the postal ballot which operates at present under conditions laid down in Byelaw D.9.

This Byelaw was introduced in 1953 after the L.A. Council had considered at length a number of constitutional changes. The following is extracted from an official announcement in the Library Association Record (April 1953):

"The Council, during its discussion of constitutional problems, gave special attention to the questions of proxy voting, referenda and postal ballot. The disadvantages of proxy voting were considered far to outweigh the advantages; the interests of members could be safeguarded, it was felt, by the introduction of a new provision for postal ballots, on demand."

The proposed new Byelaw was submitted by the L.A. Council to the 1953 A.G.M. at Llandudno. It met with such general support that the official record (Library Association Record, 1953, p. 189) reads:

"On being put to the meeting, the motion was carried nem con."

Since that time the postal ballot has been used once only. It resulted in a reversal of the A.G.M. decision at Southport, and an attempt is now being made to abolish or to restrict the use of the postal ballot. Without the postal ballot members unable to attend an Annual General Meeting would have no opportunity to register their votes on national issues which might well be of great concern to them.

Members are reminded that this Byelaw was introduced by the Library Association Council to safeguard "the interests of members". If the Byelaw is revoked such a safeguard will no longer exist.

IF YOU CARE FOR YOUR INTERESTS AND THOSE
OF YOUR FELLOW MEMBERS PLEASE MAKE EVERY EFFORT
TO ATTEND THIS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

ERIC MOON

Honorary Secretary.

The Greater London Division are arranging coaches from York Road, Waterloo Station, at 8.45 a.m. on September 19th (fare 10/-). Members wishing to travel to Folkestone on these coaches should contact Mr. D. B. Gibson (G.L.D. Hon. Secretary), 51, Cottenham Park Road, London, S.W.20. (Telephone CHA 4411, Extension 491) as soon after September 1st as possible.

THE ASSISTANT LIBRARIAN

Official Journal of the Association of Assistant Librarians

(Section of the Library Association)

Edited by W. G. Smith, Westminster Public Libraries

INDEX TO VOLUME 49, 1956.

	<i>Page</i>
Administrator or Bookman, by P. G. New	21-3
Amis, Kingsley, <i>Correspondence</i> That Uncertain Feeling	14-5, 40-2, 80-1
An Anachronism, by Miss E. J. Willson	47-8
<i>Correspondence</i> 83-4	
Apathy, <i>Correspondence</i>	93-4
Applications for Posts, <i>Correspondence</i>	134, 148
Association of Assistant Librarians:	
Annual General Meeting, 1956	121-2
Annual Report, 1955	62-7
Conference, 1956	34, 115-7
Council Notes	4-5, 48-50, 85-6, 119-120, 183-4, 206-7
<i>Correspondence</i> 118-9, 148	
Display School	143, 159, 206
Election of National Councillors, 1956	6
Officers, 1956	1, 67
Provincial Representation on Council, <i>Correspondence</i>	132
Publications	60, 86
Presidential New Year Message, by W. Tynemouth	3
Rules, Revised General	68-71
Atkinson, F., <i>Correspondence</i> Applications for Posts	148
Availability of Professional Periodicals	150
Authority Vote, <i>Editorial</i>	169
Baguley, F. W. S., <i>Correspondence</i> Posts at Inadequate Salaries	176
Baker, E. A., <i>Correspondence</i> Reference and Special Libraries Section.	
Some Current Problems	133
Ball, G. R., <i>Correspondence</i> Newark Public Library	13
Burgess, N., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries	16
Bate, C. P., <i>Correspondence</i> Beating the Queues	133-4
Bateman, R. B., <i>Correspondence</i> A.A.L. Provincial representation	132
Beer and Skittles, by Miss N. Suthers	117
Bell, N., <i>My Writing Life, Correspondence</i>	106
Birt, Miss J. and others, <i>Correspondence</i> Bournemouth Public Library	44
Book Jacket Displays, <i>Correspondence</i>	16, 45, 59-60
Books are Not for Burning, by R. L. Collison	35-7
Bournemouth Public Library, <i>Editorial</i>	1
<i>Correspondence</i> 44	
Bradley, C., <i>Correspondence</i> Examination Supplement	82
Bristow, J., <i>Correspondence</i> Council Notes	148
Broom, J. L., The Sins of Puritans	189-190
Brown, D., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	110
Bryant, E. T., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries	143-4
Bubb, A. C., André Malraux	155-7
Bubb, A. C., Figures and Facts	76-7
Butler, Miss J., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	147
Campbell, Miss H. E., <i>Correspondence</i> English Literature Examination	146
Carter, G. A., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries	143
Carver, A. Ll., Harry Marr	55
Casimir, P., <i>Correspondence</i> Reference and Special Libraries Section.	
Some Current Problems	133
Catchpole, Miss J. E., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read	195
Censorship of Books	166, 185, 206
Chapman, E., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries	2-3
Charlton, B. M., <i>Correspondence</i> Administrator or Bookman	60
Churley, P., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling	81
Clarke, C. W., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship	188
Collins, Miss B. J., <i>Correspondence</i> Bournemouth Public Library	44
Collison, R. L., Books are Not for Burning	35-7

	<i>Page</i>
Collison, R. L., What is Censorship	191-3
Cooper, Mrs. J. M., Examining the Examiners	127
Cooper, Mrs. J. M., Library Schools—A Student's View	110-2
Crossley, C. A., <i>Correspondence</i> Posts at Inadequate Salaries	177
Davinson, D., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	90
Davison, K., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	94
Dain, N., <i>Thermopylae Redivivae</i>	51
Dain, N., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	96-8, 146
Dain, N., <i>Correspondence</i> Posts at Inadequate Salaries	58
Danger to Libraries, by E. Dudley	202-3
Darby, L. E. S., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship	188
Dean, J. R., Financial Ruin	6-9
Dedman, S. C., Hell of a Place	37-9
Dearden, J. A., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries	178-9
Display Discussion: Sheffield	128-130
Doust, T. M., <i>Correspondence</i> Subscriptions	61
Dudley, E., Go Forth, My Little Book	28-30
Dudley, E., Danger to Librarians	202-3
Eager, A. R., Who killed Cock Robin?	196-8
Eager, A. R., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship	200
English Literature Examination	75-6, 127, 145-6, 167, 179
Examination Supplement: Final Examination Winter 1955	Between pages 42 & 43
Examination Supplement: First Professional Examination Summer 1956	Between Pages 144 & 145
Examining the Examiners, by Mrs. J. M. Cooper	127
Fantasy at Edmonton, <i>Editorial</i>	109-110
Ferry, E. F., <i>Editor</i> , Examination Supplement, First Professional Examination Summer 1956	Between pages 144 & 145
Ferry, E. F., <i>Correspondence</i> Women in Librarianship	114
Figures and Facts, by A. C. Bubb	76-7
Financial Ruin, by J. R. Dean	6-9
Flood, R., Success Story, <i>Review</i>	158-9
Folkestone Follies, <i>Editorial</i>	170-5
Forcing the Reader, by Miss M. Walton	56-7
Friedman, J. E., <i>Correspondence</i> Women in Librarianship	113
Galt, J., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read	194
Gann, P. D., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	92-3
Gardner, F., <i>Interview</i>	53-5
Glencross, A., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling	41-2
Go Forth, My Little Book, by E. Dudley	28-30
Goodwin, K. D., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship	200
Greaves, L., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	93-4
Grogan, D. J., <i>Correspondence</i> , Institutional Membership	83
Gunton, D., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling	14
Hahn, W. J. A., <i>Correspondence</i> Women in Librarianship	114
Harris, W. B., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	91
Harrison, K. C., <i>Correspondence</i> English Literature Examination	146
Hartley, C. H., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner	95-6
Hay, D., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries	131
Hell of a Place, by S. C. Dedman	37-9
Henbest, Miss P., <i>Correspondence</i> Bournemouth Public Library	44
Hepworth, P., <i>Correspondence</i> Financial Ruin	45-6
L'Heure Joyeuse, by Miss A. W. Struthers	10-12
Hooting and Honking, by H. S. Hoptrough	162-3
Hope, D. W., <i>Correspondence</i> English Literature Examination	179
Hoptrough, H. S., Hooting and Honking	162-3
Howard, J. V., <i>Correspondence</i> Institutional Membership	83
Howes, J. R., <i>Correspondence</i> Book Jacket Displays	45
Hoy, R. J., <i>Correspondence</i> Institutional Membership	135
Hudson, Miss D. H., <i>Correspondence</i> Women in Librarianship	112-3
Ingram, B. R., New Light on Lear	204-6
Interview with a Predecessor <i>Series</i>	53, 140-2
Institutional Membership	47-8, 83-4, 135, 169
Instructions for Stocktaking, by Miss D. Tunks	18-9
Correspondence 59	

	<i>Page</i>
Jarvis, S. M., <i>Correspondence</i> Bournemouth Public Library - - -	44
Jones, A. C., <i>Correspondence</i> Council Notes - - -	118
Jones, B., <i>Correspondence</i> Women in Librarianship - - -	112
Jones, D., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship - - -	201
Kemp, I. W., A Point of View Called Fred - - -	180-1
Lancashire Libraries, <i>Editorial</i> - - -	89
	Correspondence 143-5, 178-9
Lawrence, M., <i>Correspondence</i> Non-Assistance to Readers - - -	84
Librarians into Film Stars by W. H. Phillips - - -	164-5
Librarianship in One Easy Lesson, by S. Snaith - - -	140-2
Library Association: Annual General Meeting, 1956 - - -	174-5
Library Association: Conference, 1956 (A.A.L. Session) - - -	173
Library Association Elections, <i>Correspondence</i> - - -	177
Library Schools—A Student's View, by Mrs. J. M. Cooper - - -	100-2
Living in Sin, <i>Editorial</i> - - -	185
Lloyd, R., <i>Correspondence</i> Staff - - -	178
Lockwood, W. H. C., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner - - -	110
Lyle, R. M., <i>Correspondence</i> Council Notes - - -	148
McColvin, K. R., Four Thousand Recommended Books, <i>Review</i> - - -	103-4
MacPhee, Miss H., <i>Correspondence</i> L.A. Elections - - -	177
Malraux, André, by A. C. Bubb - - -	155
Marr, H., <i>Obituary</i> - - -	55
Marston, R. (Sub)sistance to Readers - - -	160-2
Martin, S. W., <i>Correspondence</i> Applications for Posts - - -	134
Mobile Libraries - - -	91-3, 162-3
Moon, E. E., <i>Correspondence</i> Administrator or Bookman - - -	42-3
Moon, E. E., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries - - -	131-2
Moon, E. E., The Chance to Read, <i>Review</i> - - -	125-6
Moon, E. E., Council Notes - - -	4-5, 48-50, 85-6, 118-120, 183-4, 206-7
	Correspondence 118-9
Murison, W. J., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship - - -	200-1
New P.G. Administrator or Bookman - - -	21-3
	Correspondence 60
New Light on Lear, by B. R. Ingram - - -	204-6
Newark Public Library, <i>Editorial</i> - - -	13
	Correspondence 51, 58, 86
Non-Assistance to Readers - - -	50-1
	Correspondence 84
On the Way Up, by H. A. Whatley - - -	24-7
O'Rourke, D. T., <i>Correspondence</i> Posts at Inadequate Salaries - - -	176
Paget, S. J., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read - - -	195
Percival, Miss J. C., <i>Correspondence</i> English Literature Examination - - -	146
Phillips, W. H., Librarians into Film Stars - - -	164-5
Pike, J. R., <i>Correspondence</i> Readers on Holiday - - -	17
Pocklington, P., <i>Correspondence</i> Administrator or Bookman - - -	43
Point of View Called Fred, by Ivor Kemp - - -	180-1
Posts at Inadequate Salaries, <i>Correspondence</i> - - -	58
Posts at Inadequate Salaries, <i>Editorial</i> - - -	137
	Correspondence 176-7
Prebble, A. F., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling - - -	41
Prettejohns, L. G., <i>Correspondence</i> Neil Bell, My Writing Life - - -	106
Public Relations, <i>Correspondence</i> - - -	179
Raymond, U. and others, <i>Correspondence</i> Examination Supplement - - -	82
Readers on Holiday, by B. Stradling - - -	9-10
	Correspondence 17
Reed, D. S., <i>Correspondence</i> English Literature Examination - - -	167
Reed, D. S., Slipshod Examiners - - -	75-6
Reviews:	
Dagenham Public Libraries. Four Thousand Recommended Books - - -	103-4
Evans, E., Development of Public Library Services in the Gold Coast - - -	158-9
Geer, H. T., Charging Systems - - -	28-30
Library Association, Books for Young People, Group 1 - - -	105-6
London and Home Counties Branch, Report on the Public Library System of London and the Home Counties, 1954 - - -	76-7
McColvin, L. R., The Chance to Read - - -	125-6
	Correspondence 177, 166, 194-5
Reference and Special Libraries Section. Some Current Problems - - -	56-7
	Correspondence 133
Standing Committee on Education in Librarianship (London Region), Notes for Tutors, 1-3 - - -	46-7

	<i>Page</i>
Richards, V. P., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship - - - - -	198-9
Seven Mrs. Mops, <i>Editorial</i> - - - - -	13
Sewell, P. H., <i>Thoughts of a Librarian-Educator</i> - - - - -	98-9
Shearman, A. P., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling	14-5
Shepherd, C. F., <i>Students' Textbooks</i> - - - - -	149
Shocking Mess, <i>Editorial</i> - - - - -	89
Simpson, D. J., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read - - - - -	194
Sins of Puritans, by J. L. Broom - - - - -	189-190
Skimming the Cream, <i>Review</i> by W. H. Snape - - - - -	46-7
Sleightholm, M. T., <i>Correspondence</i> Subscriptions - - - - -	16
Slipshod Examiners, by D. S. Reed - - - - -	75-6
Small Libraries, <i>Correspondence</i> - - - - - 2-3, 15-16, 131-2, 143,	178-9
Smith, A., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries - - - - -	15
Smith, W. A., <i>Unfair to Blyton, Review</i> - - - - -	105-6
Snaith, S., <i>Librarianship in One Easy Lesson</i> - - - - -	140-2
<i>Correspondence</i> 178	
Snape, W. H., <i>Skimming the Cream, Review</i> - - - - -	46-7
Soar, G. D. E., <i>Correspondence</i> English Literature Examination - - - - -	167
Solomon, Miss J., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read - - - - -	166
Stagg, Miss L., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner - - - - -	94
Stebbing, J. N., <i>Correspondence</i> Bournemouth Public Library - - - - -	44
Stradling, B., <i>Readers on Holiday</i> - - - - -	9-10
Struthers, Miss A. W., <i>L'Heure Hoyeuse</i> - - - - -	10-12
Students' Textbooks, by C. F. Shepherd - - - - -	149
Subscriptions, <i>Correspondence</i> - - - - -	16, 61
(Sub)stance to Readers, by R. Marston - - - - -	160-2
Surridge, R., <i>Correspondence</i> Book Jacket Displays - - - - -	59
Suthers, Miss N., <i>Beer and Skittles</i> - - - - -	116-7
Suthers, Miss N., <i>Correspondence</i> Women in Librarianship - - - - -	114
Talking Points, <i>Editorials</i> - - - - - 20-1, 33-4, 73-4, 138, 153,	182
Taylor, L. E., <i>Correspondence</i> Institutional Membership - - - - -	84
Thermopylae Redivivae, by N. Dain - - - - -	51
Thomas, A., <i>Correspondence</i> Moral Book Selection - - - - -	166
Thoughts of a Librarian-Educator, by P. H. Sewell - - - - -	98-9
Thorne, W. B., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read - - - - -	177
Tomlinson, O. S., <i>Editor, Examination Supplement, Final Examination</i>	
Winter, 1955. - - - - - Between pages 42 and 43	
Tomlinson, O. S., <i>Correspondence</i> Financial Ruin - - - - -	17
Tully, Miss N. M., <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship - - - - -	188
Tunks, Miss D., <i>Instructions for Stocktaking</i> - - - - -	18-9
Tyerman, H., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner - - - - -	90
Tynemouth, W., <i>Presidential New Year Message</i> - - - - -	3
Unfair to Blyton, by W. A. Smith, <i>Review</i> - - - - -	105-6
Wakeman, J., <i>Correspondence</i> Book Jacket Displays - - - - -	16, 59-60
Walker, Miss B., <i>Correspondence</i> The Chance to Read - - - - -	166
Walker, Miss B., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling	40-1
Walton, Miss M., <i>Forcing the Reader, Review</i> - - - - -	56-7
Watkins, A. H., <i>Correspondence</i> Public Relations - - - - -	179
What is Censorship, by R. L. Collison - - - - -	191-3
Whatley, H. A., <i>On the Way Up</i> - - - - -	24-7
Who Killed Cock Robin? by A. R. Eager - - - - -	196-8
Wilden-Hart, Miss M., <i>Women in Librarianship</i> - - - - -	78-80
Wilden-Hart, Miss M., <i>Correspondence</i> Book Jacket Displays - - - - -	45
Wills, A. L., <i>Correspondence</i> Kingsley Amis, That Uncertain Feeling	14
Willson, Miss E. J., <i>An Anachronism</i> - - - - -	47-8
<i>Correspondence</i> 83-4, 135, 169	
Wilson, T. D., <i>Correspondence</i> Interview with Frank Gardner - - - - -	147
Wilson, T. D. and others, <i>Correspondence</i> Censorship - - - - -	187
Women in Librarianship, by Miss M. Wilden-Hart - - - - -	78-80
<i>Correspondence</i> 112-4	
Wray, B. W., <i>Correspondence</i> Small Libraries - - - - -	144-5
Wright, M., <i>Correspondence</i> Applications for Posts - - - - -	134

373



THE THURLOE SERIES

*of special library
editions——ideal
for travelling
libraries*

Arts and Crafts
Cycling Tourist Guides
Electrical
Engineering
Gardening
Pets and Livestock
Modelling, etc.
Modelling, Railways
Photography
Wireless and
Television
Juveniles and
Elementary Readers

*Catalogues and Samples on
request*

OPPENHEIM & Co. Ltd.

*Library and Wholesale
Booksellers*

25, THURLOE STREET,
SOUTH KENSINGTON,
LONDON, S.W.7.

Telephone :
Kensington 6807 & 9431

THE HOLT-JACKSON BOOK COMPANY LIMITED



*Public and County
Library Booksellers*



MONTAUBAN
CHAMBERS,
ST. ANNES-ON-SEA,
LANCS.

Telephone: St. Annes 575



London Showroom:
59, BRITTON STREET,
CLERKENWELL ROAD, E.C.1
Telephone: Clerkenwell 3250.

PAID

W. & R. HOLMES
(BOOKS) LTD.

W. & R. HOLMES are in a position to offer the highest qualified service in all matters connected with library supply; their library department is organized to that end.

**AGENTS FOR THE
H. W. WILSON CO.'S
LIBRARY AND
BIBLIOGRAPHICAL
PUBLICATIONS**

W. & R. HOLMES
(BOOKS) LTD.
P.O. BOX No. 192
3-11 DUNLOP STREET, GLASGOW

